

Friday Mar. 17, 2023 7pm

License Testing 5:30pm

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**NASA Astronaut
Shannon Walker, KD5DXB**

MARCH 17 PROGRAM

San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District Communications



Communications Support 131 at
PACIFICON in San Ramon on
October 19, 2019 (N4DLA photo)

OUR MEETING ROOM HAS MOVED !
We're now meeting upstairs, in room Oak View 3,
down the hall from the sanctuary. Please park in
the UPPER PARKING LOT.

Our in-person meeting will also be held virtually, via the Zoom video system. The meeting access ID and password will be distributed via groups.io email announcement. The meeting will also be shown on the club digital amateur television repeater, which is live streamed at: <http://w6cxatv.mdarc.org/> and also live streamed on YouTube on the **Media MDARC** channel.



Kurt Bales AI6ZX

Bruce Bartel N6VLB

Paul Gotelli KN6YHY

**If you hear these new members on the air,
please welcome them to our club.**

— *Jan Kulisek, KM6NFC, Membership Chair*

FOUND COAT



This is a coat that was left behind at the General Membership meeting on Friday February 17, 2023. If it is yours, please contact the club to arrange its return.

**ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO JOIN
THE FREE CLUB E-MAIL GROUP AT:**

<https://groups.io/g/MDARC>

Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club W6CX

P.O. Box 23222 Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

(925) 288-1730 info@mdarc.org

The Carrier is a monthly publication of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC). It is the policy of the editor to publish all material submitted by the membership provided such material is in good taste, relevant to amateur radio and of interest to MDARC members, and provided space is available.

President - Ed Morales, KJ6KYT

Vice President - **vacant**

Secretary – Brian Lotter, KM6NGS

Treasurer - Gene Sylls, KG6EYE

Emergency Coordinator - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB

Directors At Large

Trevor Hall, WA6JAU Cal Vasquez, K6VT

Larry Bradley, KK6QPE Mike Warren, W6MEW

Membership Chair – Jan Kulisek, KM6NFC

mdarcmembership@mdarc.org

PACIFICON 2023

Chair: Julie Mah, WJ8MAH

Registration: Debbie Deeble, KN6DOM

Treasurer: Gene Sylls, KG6EYE

Secretary: Jeff Mah, N8MAH

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND COORDINATORS

Annual Auction - **vacant**

Communications Trailer - Mike Warren, W6MEW

Communications Van MDARC-1 - Jim Tittle, K6SOE

Digital Media - Mike Patterson, N6JGA

Education & Training - John Primus, AF6RJ

Field Day - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB

Good & Welfare - Diana Sage, KA6TZU

Holiday Dinner - Misa Siemons, KJ6BUE

License Testing - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB

Outreach - Dick Wade, WM6G

Public Service - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB

Radio Equipment Lending - Cal Vasquez, K6VT

Refreshments - Elizabeth Styles, KG6HLV

W6LGW Callsign Trustee - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB

W6CX Repeater Trustee - Jim Tittle, K6SOE

Scholarship - Janice Fujii, KG6VTD

Technical Committee - Jim Tittle, K6SOE

The Carrier Newsletter

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Digital Amateur Television Help and Information:

Fred Coe, WB6ASU wb6asu@icloud.com

President's Message



Another Silent Key.... Another Generous Survivor

Silent Key (SK) is a term of respect for a deceased amateur radio operator who usually is part of a family.

The "Key" in the term refers to a telegraph key, the instrument that all early amateur radio operators, as well as many contemporary amateur radio operators, have used to send continuous wave transmissions (i.e. Morse code). When a Ham family member becomes a SK, the surviving family is often left to deal with lots of specialized radio equipment. Sometimes the surviving relatives (spouses or children) don't know what to do with it. Should they throw it away. Or maybe give it away to folks that can make use of it.



I recently experienced this with a recent SK in our area. Doug Ferreira, N6PRT unfortunately became a SK. One of our local Ham folks informed me about this. His widow Sandy wanted to donate his radio equipment to our club. I spoke with Sandy over the phone. She is not a Ham and did not know what to do with her late husband's radio equipment. She thought of just throwing it away but decided to reach out to a Ham radio fellow she knew to see if maybe she could donate the equipment to MDARC. I did not know Doug, but I understand he was a dedicated Ham operator. He was a member of the Contra Costa Repeater Associate (CCRA) for 25 years. Doug was always willing to support CCRA and often would help with the maintenance and repair of the CCRA repeaters. As you might know, CCRA is a great organization that manages 3 linked

repeaters in Contra Costa County.

I called Sandy and she invited me over to her home. I decided to go and meet her and see what she was dealing with. Sandy was very nice to me and very welcoming. I told her I was sorry for her loss. At the same time, I could see that she was now alone and needed to find a way to move on. She led me to the backyard, and I observed dozens of boxes and containers filled with of all kinds of radio related equipment. Everything from mobile or base station rigs. Countless antennas. Toolboxes. Tons of wire. Speakers. A plethora of handheld brick radios and scanners. There was also a lot of HF equipment hidden in a small shed (Ham shack?).

I was overwhelmed.

I took as much as I could in my small funky Honda. I later returned with a fellow Board member who had a truck. We loaded the rest of what we could and again thanked Sandy for donating to the club. She wanted nothing in return, but I could sense that she felt she was doing a good thing.

And now we are tasked to share all this great equipment with our MDARC family and others. Unfortunately, there will be no auction this year. But we are working on other ways to sell equipment in order to generate some revenue for the club.

That said, I can't help but to think of Sandy. She like others, had the wherewithal and generosity to donate what was so important to her late husband. I thank you Sandy and all the others that decided to donate to the club

73, Ed Morales, KJ6KYT MDARC President

P.S. - If anyone is interested in purchasing one of the many FM VHF/UHF rigs, please contact me.

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS 2023

Oakland Running Festival Confirmed

Sunday, March 19, 2023

Running Race in Downtown Oakland

Radio Coordinator: Mike Pompa KB6MP, mpompa@gmail.com

<https://www.ww6or.com/oakland-marathon-signup>

Diablo Trails Challenge - Running Race Confirmed — SEE NEXT PAGE

Saturday, April 8, 2023

Running race from Castle Rock Park, Walnut Creek

Radio Coordinator: Larry Loomer KI6LNB, larylloomer@yahoo.com

Brazen Racing <http://brazenracing.com/r/diablo.html>

Cinderella Bike Ride – in Livermore Confirmed

Saturday, April 15, 2023

Ladies' Bike Ride around Livermore

Radio Coordinator: George Moorhead, KG6GEM, kg6wui1@comcast.net

<https://www.valleyspokesman.org>

Berkeley Hills Road Race Confirmed

Saturday, April 29, 2023

Bike race in the East Bay Hills

Radio Coordinator: Mark Walsh, KM6XU, mark@km6xu.com

http://berkeleybike.org/?page_id=474

MS Walk Confirmed

Sunday, April 23, 2023

Walk in Heather Farm Park, Walnut Creek

Radio Coordinator: Pete Harris KE6ZIW pharris125@comcast.net

<https://mssociety.donordrive.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.event&eventID=773>

Devil Mountain Run – in Danville Confirmed

Sunday, May 7, 2023

Running Race in Danville

Radio Coordinator: George Moorhead, KG6GEM, kg6wui1@comcast.net

<https://www.valleyspokesman.org>

Lake Chabot Trail Challenge Confirmed

Sunday, June 4, 2023

Running race, 5k and ½ Marathon in Castro Valley

Radio Coordinator: Larry Loomer, KI6LNB <larylloomer@yahoo.com>

Race Director: Rachel Lunt

(continued on following page)

Mt Diablo Challenge Bike Ride Confirmed

Sunday, October 1, 2023

Bike ride up Mount Diablo, Alamo, CA

Race Coordinator: Larry Loomer, KI6LNB <larylloomer@yahoo.com>

Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Club, Raghu Venkata, event lead

<http://www.valleyspokesmen.org/>

Diablo Summit Stomp Confirmed

Saturday, October 21, 2023

Running Race from Castle Rock Park, Walnut Creek, CA

Radio Coordinator: Larry Loomer KI6LNB <larylloomer@yahoo.com>

Brazen Racing <http://brazenracing.com/r/summitstompmain.html>



Saturday, April 8, 2023, is the first Contra Costa County public service event of the season, the “Diablo Trails Challenge.”

This running race event will begin at Castle Rock Park in Walnut Creek and run to the top of Mt. Diablo and back to Castle Rock Park.

The amateur radio operator assignments are at various elevations on the mountain, at rest stops and at strategic points on the trail. Most assignments are drive-in to your location. Some assignments are hike-in, for the outdoorsy operators in the group.

There will be an “Introduction to Public Service Event Participation” class held on Saturday, April 1, at the Clayton Valley Presbyterian Church, 1578 Kirker Pass Road, Clayton (Concord) at 9:00am, to acquaint new hams with the ins and outs of participating in a Public Service event in general, and of participating in the Diablo Trails Challenge event in particular. Experienced hams are also invited to attend.

If you have an HT, we will try to program it for you with the Contra Costa County ham radio frequencies that you will be using on public service events in this county. If you would like to get your HT programmed at this class, let me know the make and model number of your HT.

If you would like to make a reservation to get your radio programmed and/or volunteer as a ham in the event, email larylloomer@yahoo.com with your name and call sign.

We look forward to working with you.

73, Larry Loomer, KI6LNB, Club Emergency Coordinator

PACIFICON 2023 is on!! October 20-22, 2023

The PACIFICON team has been hard at work already, securing the San Ramon Marriott Hotel, planning and preparing for PACIFICON 2023.

What makes PACIFICON so great is the involvement of communities and entities that come together, share ideas, have discussions, and are involved in this amazing convention. We wish and hope we can continue this endeavor, but we need your help. The number of people volunteering is less than what we need.

It is only through the efforts of individuals who donate their time and energy to this convention that makes PACIFICON so special.

We hold 1 meeting a month (the 2nd Wednesday of every month) both in person and by zoom. (long distance can no longer keep us apart). It usually lasts about 2 hours.

We are in urgent need of a Forums Coordinator. The Forums Coordinator makes contact with various persons who speak or teach through the convention and then coordinating with the team, plans the various times and placements of speakers. We have a historical list of good previous speakers, some of whom very likely would be willing to do their presentations, or modified versions, again if contacted about it. You don't need to be a licensed Ham OR a member of MDARC to participate as a volunteer.

If you are tired of the same speakers or want different information given during this convention then it is time to get involved. Sitting on the sidelines and complaining about something doesn't make change. You need to get involved!!!

Afraid?? Never done anything like it?? NO time?? I can tell you that the PACIFICON team is one of the best teams to volunteer for. The knowledge that has accumulated through the years is mind blowing and every person on the team is willing to help you out in any way possible. There is also written documentation created by the previous chair, to follow and guide you through the process, and changes that you can make to help make PACIFICON fabulous. Don't be afraid!!!

Want to check things out first? I invite you to join our meetings by zoom or in person. Just send me an email and I will send you a link to join our next meeting or give you an address for the meeting if you wish to come in person.

Also, this year celebrates the 100th anniversary of the first meeting of the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong which is traditionally put on at ARRL Division / National conventions. Some of our six 6 actors and other assistant staff for this have been doing it since MDARC took over PACIFICON in 1992 with pre-recorded audio for this 45 minute meeting. For the 100th meeting we would like to do this with lines being memorized instead of using pre-recorded audio. This year, we would also like to start building a new team to take this over for future PACIFICON conventions. We need to come up with replacement costumes as the other ones that have been used since 1992. If we start now, it should be easy to memorize the parts and come up with costumes and the few simple props that are needed. You must be a licensed ham to be an actor. We will hold Zoom meetings to work on lines, and will have 1 or 2 in-person rehearsals in September and October (most likely in Lafayette). Please contact Lauren Styles, WA6CIE, at WA6CIE.HAM@GMAIL.COM if you can help with this.

So in closing.... If you want PACIFICON to continue and thrive, then get involved, because PACIFICON is not sustainable without volunteers.

Thank you, 73,

Julie Mah, 2023 PACIFICON Chair

THE RAILROAD TELEGRAPHER

NO. 19.

PEORIA, ILL., DEC. 14, 1895.

VOL. 12.

OFFICIAL ORGAN Order of Railroad Telegraphers of North America.

J. R. T. AUSTON, Editor.

W. N. Gates, Advertising Agent.
29 Euclid Ave, Cleveland, Ohio.

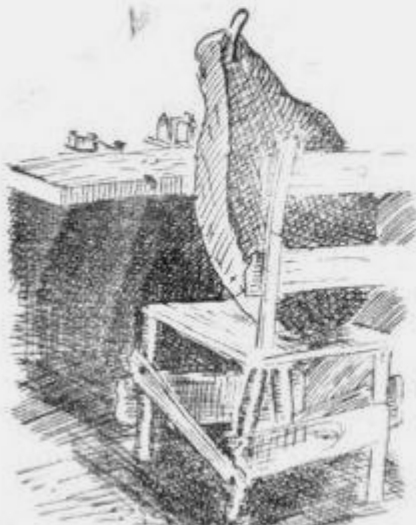
Entered at the Post Office at Peoria, Ills., as
second-class mail matter.

Subscription \$1.00 per year.
Published Weekly.

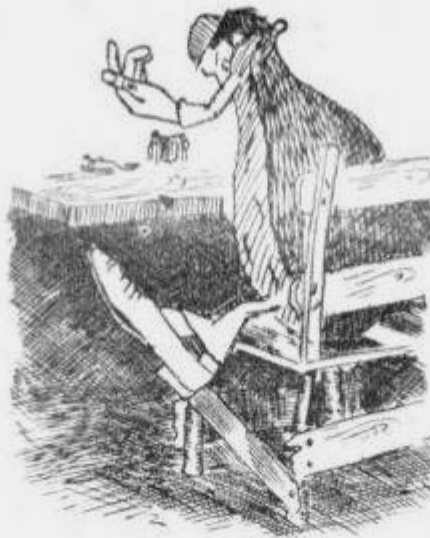
used by telegraphers and means an inefficient telegrapher; one who has very little ability to send or receive messages but who are eagerly sought after by some railroad superintendents of telegraph because they work cheap. Professors of telegraph colleges pay some of the superintendents a liberal fee for "curing" their hams, but some are so green that their presence in railroad offices causes trains to bump each other and passengers to wear wooden limbs and coffins. Newspaper dispatches tell the public such bumps were caused by an "error in train orders." If green

railroad officials who are old enough to know better than to jeopardize public life and property by distributing green hams among the railroad stations. The only way this ham business can be regulated is by state legislation. Every railroad telegrapher should carry a certificate issued by a state board of examiners.

*Courtesy David J. Ring, Jr.,
N1EA, FISTS Club*



1st DAY



10th DAY



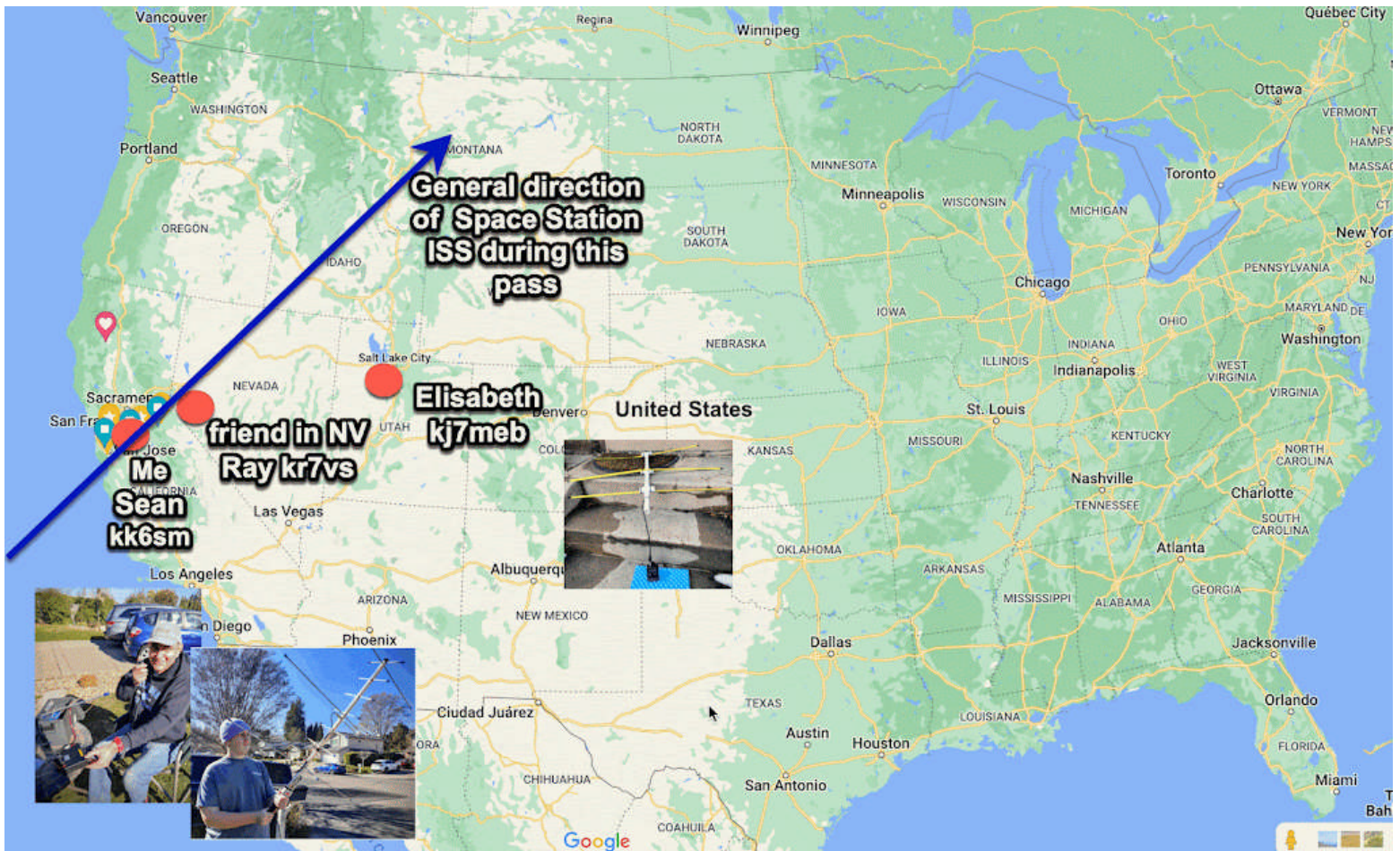
30th DAY

EVOLUTION OF A HAM.

The uninitiated may think that this ham is one of "Armour's best," but it is not. In fact it is not a ham at all; merely a young man from the country who has paid his tuition fee to a so-called Telegraph College. "Ham" is a term

hams were not being cured by avaricious railroad officials there would be fewer "errors in orders." The usual fee for curing hams is \$5—but some first-class curers receive as high as \$15. The largest ham factory is located in St. Louis, Mo., and is owned and operated by some

Amateur Radio Contact via Satellite Repeater



By Sean Medina, KK6SM in San Ramon, CA, USA, with Elisabeth Barry, KJ7MEB in Salt Lake City, UT, USA

My family and I talked to fellow work colleague Elisabeth Barry, reaching from the SF Bay Area, California to Salt Lake City, Utah.

What's special about that? I used a small radio and a special antenna, and she did the same. I 'relayed' a radio signal off of a satellite in orbit, to talk to Elisabeth, two states away!

That's still a lot to parse. Let's decompose it...

First: Amateur Radio (Ham Radio) - My definition is:

*"a hobby where you use equipment at your end and equipment at your friend's end, to get a message between you two. You rely upon the physics of the world around you, to get your radio signal to the other end. You rely upon varying amounts of infrastructure: usually **none** - zero human-made infrastructure in between; but sometimes minor, volunteer-built infrastructure."*

(continued on following page)

(In this case we relied upon quite-sophisticated infrastructure: a simple 'repeater' radio but mounted on a satellite in orbit!)

EQUIPMENT: NOT COMPLEX:

The equipment here on earth: a \$200 radio, plus a special antenna built by fellow work colleague Roger Deming, kk6rd. Next you see my son and me using them.

The equipment at Elisabeth kj7meb's end: a \$100 radio plus a special antenna she built. (My son and I are building an antenna like hers too.) YES, that antenna is made from pieces of a tape measure, plus plastic pipe.

(Not shown: she also used second \$30 radio and simple store-bought whip antenna, for reasons out of scope of this album.)

DISTANCE:

If Elisabeth and I would be ... 50 miles apart (80 km), we might be able to talk to each other using only these, with NO OTHER infrastructure. (... Can you see the allure of this hobby to me?)

But instead, we are 580 mi (830 km) apart.

We relied upon a "radio repeater", a unit that receives a radio signal, amplifies and retransmits it so others can hear it.

This repeater is mounted up high... VERY VERY high. It is in space. It is mounted on the International Space Station.

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER:

In the left photo on the map I'm talking on the radio and my son is pointing the antenna at the satellite (the ISS) as it passes overhead. We could not see the satellite, as the daytime sky obscured it, however we knew its location.

We planned / choreographed it: over a 10-minute span we knew the satellite would rise above the horizon behind us, pass directly overhead, then set at the horizon in front of us. My son aimed the antenna at where we knew the satellite would be during this time. My wife was timekeeper, helping us know where to point the antenna.

Ten minutes makes for a hectic time: my son aiming the antenna, me listening, adjusting frequency, and calling out on radio, my wife mentioning times so we could re-aim the antenna. In the photo above, we are "operating", with the satellite directly overhead.

At Elisabeth's end she was out in the cold (note the patch of snow in her antenna photo), and had a cat on her lap demanding attention, and a second radio that needed attention.

The word, "choreography" comes to mind.

SO WHAT DID IT SOUND LIKE? Strings of letters with a few words interspersed!

(continued on following page)

STRINGS OF LETTERS: Every Amateur Radio operator in the world has a callsign: a unique identifier. Mine is kk6sm. Yes, a callsign is a Globally-Unique Identifier (a very-short GUID of 6 or fewer digits, to software folks (*)).

OK, WHAT DOES IT SOUND LIKE?

I called out, "KJ7MEB, KK6SM in San Ramon, California.", or "CQ, CQ from KK6SM in CM97as."

After one such call-out, Elisabeth immediately texted me, "I heard you!"

Earlier in the satellite pass, I heard two hams asking each other about their respective locations (both were in California).

Ray KR7VS did not hear me at all.

THIS WAS COOL! Geeky cool! It was so cool that I felt compelled to write about it! Unfortunately it was a one-way contact not two-way, so I could not record it in the Winter Field Day competition (see below). Perhaps next time!

() footnote: Fellow hams - yes I approximated callsign length for simplicity.*

GEEKY DETAILS:

The repeater on the ISS uses V/U mode (VHF uplink, UHF downlink).

I transmitted with 10W (or perhaps 50W) power.

Elisabeth transmitted with 5W power via her tape-measure VHF Yagi antenna. The pass was 11 minutes long and went directly overhead. Weather was clear at my end, cold and thick snowy clouds at Elisabeth's end.

Phone apps: "W1ANT Satellite Tracker", "AMSAT Droid", "Compass".

Web software "World Time Buddy", "amsat.org/track", "satmatch.com / satellite/ISS/ obs1/CM97AS/obs2/DN40br (using our two gridsquare coordinates)"

MY RADIO: a mobile BTech UV-50x2 at either 10W or 50W (likely 10).

I programmed the frequencies into a channel, to allow quick work with the repeater aboard ISS. I used the mnemonic "ISSR" with R meaning Repeater. Tx: 145.9900 MHz simplex, PL 67 Hz, Rx: 437.8000 MHz

I actually made three channels:

ISSR Hi: 145.9925 / 437.8025 stated freqs, adjusted upward 2.5 kHz to account for Doppler shift as the satellite approaches me

ISSR: 145.9900 / 437.8000 the stated freqs

ISSR Lo: 145.9875 / 437.7975 adjusted downward 2.5 kHz to account for Doppler shift as it recedes

I also programmed the "astronaut voice frequencies for the outside chance that an astronaut might be transmitting, which is a rare event; I named this set "ISSA", with A representing astronaut. Likewise I programmed another pair of channels, Dopplered-high and low.

MY ANTENNA: Roger D KK6RD built this during a LARK build-it-yourself event. (LARK = Livermore Area Radio Klub)

(continued on following page)

THE PASS: The satellite was predicted to rise above the horizon at 13:56:34 my time, cross overhead (86 degrees max elevation), and set below the opposite horizon at 14:07:36. (21:56:34Z to 22:07:36Z (UTC))

The actual timeline, with estimates as I reconstruct it: (times are Pacific Time, Jan 38, 2023):

Time (PT) Time into pass

13:56:34	0	predicted rise above horizon (southwest)
13:58:00	2m 0s	approx rise above nearby houses? (estimated)
13:58:00	2m 0s	heard two other hams talking (estimated)
14:02:10	5m 36s	max elevation (overhead)
14:07:00	10m 26s	Elisabeth k7jmeb heard me (estimated)
14:07:16	10m 42s	Elisabeth kj7meb texted me, "I heard you".
14:07:36	11m 02s	predicted set below opposite horizon (northeast)

Predicted pass duration: 11 min 2 sec

pass was traveling toward NE, toward Elisabeth's location. It makes sense that she heard me late in the pass as the satellite was descending toward my horizon, rather than early.

THE SATELLITE: International Space Station (ISS).

The crossband ham repeater onboard the ISS: Kenwood TM-D710E



Sean Medina, KK6SM, making the satellite QSO



The BTECH UV-50x2 FM transceiver used by KK6SM to contact the ISS repeater



ARISS
Amateur Radio on the International Space Station



Misa Siemons, KJ6BUE, made these beautiful embroidered 75th anniversary napkins for the December 4, 2022 MDARC Holiday dinner. Unfortunately, due to the severe weather that affected the transportation system, the napkins did not arrive in time to decorate the tables. Instead, they were given to registered dinner attendees who were present at the February 17, 2023 club meeting.

Your embroidery is beautiful, the snowman is great, and the “MDARC 75th Anniversary” commemoration makes it very meaningful. They are made with heavy duty linen and feel great. Thank you, Misa, for your amazing work for our club! — **Pete Harris, KE6ZIW**



Upgrade your amateur radio license! Register now for MDARC 2023 General or Extra license courses

General License Course-2023

Each Tuesday, March 28 - May 23, 2023 (9 sessions)

7:00-9:00 PM

Held via Zoom and In-Person at:
Clayton Valley Presbyterian Church
1578 Kirker Pass Road
Clayton, Ca 94517

*** General Class Get-On-The-Air (GOTA)**

Tuesday, June 6, 2023; 7:00 - 9:00 PM (1 session)

Held via Zoom Only

Amateur Extra License Course-2023

Each Tuesday, June 27 - September 5, 2023 (10 sessions)

7:00-9:00 PM

Held via Zoom and In-Person at:
Clayton Valley Presbyterian Church
1578 Kirker Pass Road
Clayton, Ca 94517

Note: No class on July 4 Independence Day

Please go to <https://www.mdarc.org/education-and-testing/class-details> for complete details and to register for one or both license courses.

THE FIRST HAM SWAP OF THE YEAR IS COMING!



7TH ANNUAL LOOMIS HAMFEST



Join the Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club for HAMFEST 2023!

Get your gear, grab your wallet, and get ready for a super swap.

We'll have coffee and donuts, awesome prizes,

Elmer tours, a test table, presentations and so much more.

More information can be found @ hamfest.w6ek.org

Sellers need to bring their own tables, chairs, pop-ups, generators (no shore power available)

No equipment will be provided.

SELLERS \$10

Setup at 0600

**FREE ADMISSION
AND PARKING**

**TALK IN FREQUENCY
146.535**

When

Saturday, March 18, 2023

0700 to 1100 Hours

PRIZES INCLUDE

Where

Historic Loomis Train Depot

5775 Horseshoe Bar Rd, Loomis



PUPVWMHB 12V 100Ah LiFePO4
Battery w/ 100A BMS &
Victron Energy Blue Smart IP65 12-
Volt 15-amp Battery Charge



Creality Ender 3
Neo 3D Printer



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Special thanks to:
Brian Gohl (AI6US)
Jeff Morgan (KM6RGO)
Aaron Bond (W1ATB)
for your donations.



MDARC General Meeting Minutes

November 18, 2022

Held as hybrid Zoom and in-person meeting at PACIFICON

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by the MDARC President Ed Morales, KJ6KYT.

- a. Welcome to all: The president welcomed all attendees.
- b. Pledge of Allegiance: This was made by in-person attendees.
- c. Acknowledge new members: The president acknowledged new members.
- d. Acknowledge visitors: The president acknowledged visitors.

2. Approval of Minutes from the Last Meeting: Trevor WA6JAU, seconded by Mike W6MEW, proposed a motion to approve. The October minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Officer Reports:

- a. The President: Ed, KJ6KYT encouraged anybody who has not signed up for the holiday banquet to do so.
- b. The Vice President: Position is vacant therefore no report.
- c. The Secretary Brian KM6NGS had no report.
- d. The Treasurer: Gene KG6EYE was not present but Ed reported the numbers. MDARC Checking Account \$33,850; MDARC Savings Account \$28391; Equipment Self-Insurance Fund \$58,980; PACIFICON Checking Account \$28,344; Total Account Balances \$149,567.
- e. The Emergency Coordinator Larry KI6LNB was not present at this time.
- f. Directors at Large: Mike W6MEW, Trevor WA6JAU and Larry KK6QPE had nothing to report. Cal K6VT was not present.

4. Committee Reports – Standing:

The following reports were the only ones presented at this meeting

- a. Education and training: Mike W6MEW reported that Larry KI6LNB had 3 Technician and 2 Amateur Extra candidates pass their exams tonight.
- b. Election: Larry Bradley KK6QPE stated that ballots that were sent out, were required to be returned by the 16th of November. However, in-person voting is allowed at this meeting. There were no in-person votes but Dick WM6G tallied votes that were also possible via the chat function within the Zoom meeting. The election results were; President Ed Morales KJ6KYT, Vice President open, Secretary Brian Lotter KM6NGS, Treasurer Gene Sylls KG6EYE, Emergency Coordinator Larry Loomer KI6LNB, Mike Warren W6MEW and Cal Vasquez K6VT Directors at Large. The Directors at Large Larry Bradley KK6QPE and Trevor Hall WA6JAU will continue with their terms. Larry KK6QPE noted that only 66 out of the 325 members had voted. He thought that this indicated that only a small percentage of club members were engaged enough to care who the club officers are.
- c. Holiday Banquet: Ed thanked Misa KJ6BUE for her help with organizing the banquet.
- d. Membership: Jan KM6NFC showed the Membership report for November and stated that it is approximately 95% accurate. Paying Members 311, All current members incl. family and additional 325, New members this year 42, Renewal last 30 days 8, Past due 87, Lifetime 11.

5. Unfinished Business: There was no unfinished business.

6. New Business: There was no new business.

7. Adjourn Business Meeting: The business portion of the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 pm.

At this point, Ed KJ6KYT introduced Dan Goldstein who talked about EMCOMM Mutual Aid in a Digital World.

Respectfully submitted by Brian Lotter, KM6NGS, Secretary, on January 11, 2023.

MDARC General Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2023

Held as hybrid Zoom and in-person meeting.

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by the MDARC President Ed Morales, KJ6KYT.

- a. Welcome to all: The president welcomed all attendees.
- b. Pledge of Allegiance: This was made by in-person attendees.
- c. Acknowledge new members: The president acknowledged new members.
- d. Acknowledge visitors: The president acknowledged visitors.

2. Approval of Minutes from the Last Meeting: The November minutes were approved.

3. Officer Reports:

- a. The President: Ed, KJ6KYT reported that; Napkins from the 2022 banquet were available to people that had paid for the banquet and could be collected from him. Jim Siemons is stepping down as auction chair, so anybody who is interested in filling this position should let Ed know. Jim is willing to share his expertise but is no longer auction chair. For those members that receive the ARRL QST magazine, there is an event called volunteers on the air and details can be found in the February issue. "Our own" Mike Patterson N6JGA is a volunteer for this event and you can see him amongst the volunteers on the cover of the January QST magazine. Mike N6JGA announced that you get points for making contact with any of the volunteers. Ed said that he is planning to have two meetings where there will be no formal speaker, but rather an open forum where people can bring questions or talk about what they are doing with their ham radios.
- b. The Vice President: Vacant. c. The Secretary: Brian KM6NGS was absent.
- d. The Treasurer: Gene KG6EYE presented the financials for December 2022 as follows MDARC; Income \$1,972, Expenses \$4,874, Net Loss -\$2,902. PACIFICON; Income \$0, Expenses \$1,548, Net Loss -\$1,548. Account Balances; MDARC Checking \$32,460, MDARC Savings \$28,396, Equipment Self-Ins \$59,622, PACIFICON Account \$17,371, Total of accounts \$137,849. Budget results for 2022 were MDARC; Income \$30,915, Expenses \$33,441, Net Loss -\$2,526, Budgeted Income, \$24,514, Budgeted Expenses \$37,396, Budgeted Loss \$12,882. PACIFICON; Income \$53,901, Expenses \$52,763, Net Gain \$1,138. Auction Income \$4,131. Holiday Banquet \$699. He stated that the 2023 budget will be published in The Carrier. There were no questions for Gene. Ed KJ6KYT added that we are looking for ways to increase our income e.g. raise the rates at PACIFICON and asked that any members with ideas, come to the board meetings and present them there.
- e. The Emergency Coordinator: Larry KI6LNB was not present at this time.
- f. Directors at Large: Mike W6MEW, Trevor WA6JAU and Larry KK6QPE had nothing to report. Cal K6VT was not present.

4. Committee Reports – Standing:

The following reports were the only ones presented at this meeting

- a. Education and Training: John Primus sent a report via email and this was attached to the meeting invitation.
- b. Mesh Committee: Mike Warren W6MEW reported that there is a new high level node on Wiedemann Hill in the Southern Diablo Valley. Mike encouraged members in San Ramon, Danville, and Alamo to set up stations to connect to this node.
- c. Rocky Ridge Repeater (Technical) Trevor WA6JAU apologized for losing the receive antenna of the 2 Meter repeater on South Peak. This was mitigated by Jim Tittle K6SOE who connected the transmit antenna to the receive antenna. Trevor announced that he will go up the mountain next week to try to get the 440MHz and multimode repeaters working. He also intends to find out what is wrong with the 2 Meter receive antenna.

5. Unfinished Business: There was no unfinished business. **6. New Business:** There was no new business.

7. Adjourn Business Meeting: The business portion of the meeting was adjourned at 7:17 pm. At this point, Ed KJ6KYT introduced Jan Kulisek KM6NFC who talked about MDARC Membership Portal.

Respectfully submitted by Brian Lotter, KM6NGS, Secretary, on February 13, 2023

MDARC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

February 6, 2023 Held at Zoom online

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:16 pm by Ed Morales, KJ6KYT after it was determined that there was a quorum for conducting Club business.

2. Roll Call: Attendees via Zoom screen shot:

Officers: Ed Morales KJ6KYT, President; Brian Lotter KM6NGS, Secretary; Gene Sylls KG6EYE, Treasurer; Larry Bradley KK6QPE, Director at Large; Mike Warren W6MEW, Director at Large; Trevor Hall WA6JAU, Director at Large; Val Vasquez K6VT, Director at Large. Committee Chairs/Coordinator: Mike N6JGA, Jan KM6NFC, Jim Tittle K6SOE Guests: Jim K6JM; Grant K6CBK; Mary KD6MKS; Bruce N6VLB.

3. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting: Trevor WA6JAU, seconded by Larry KK6QPE, proposed a motion to approve. The minutes were unanimously approved.

4. Adopt Tonight's Agenda: The agenda was approved.

5. Officer reports:

- a. President Ed Morales KJ6KYT – Ed reported that he had been in contact with the widow of Douglas Ferreira, N6PRT to arrange for the donation of his Radio equipment to MDARC.
- b. Vice-President (Vacant) – Had no report.
- c. Secretary Brian Lotter KM6NGS – Had no report.
- d. Treasurer Gene Sylls, KG6EYE – Reported that the 2022 financials had been sent to the accountants for the tax returns and that they had also prepared the form for the state filing. Ed asked if anyone had any questions about the financial report that Gene had sent out by email.

6. Emergency Coordinator Report: Larry KI6LNB was not present. Ed mentioned that he had been invited to disaster response training put on by Concord and that, since he has a scheduling conflict, he is sending Larry KI6LNB.

7. Directors at large reports:

Mike Warren W6MEW – Had no report. Trevor Hall WA6JAU – Had no report. Larry Bradley KK6QPE – Had no report. Cal Vasquez K6VT – Had no report.

8. Committee Reports:

- a. Auction: Ed reported that Jim Siemons W6LK is standing down from the Auction chair position and called for a volunteer to replace him. He stated that we will revisit this at a later time since there were no volunteers at this time.
- b. Communications Trailer: Mike W6MEW reported that there is nothing to discuss.
- c. Digital Media: Mike Patterson stated that Grant K6CBK has Google Analytics set up on the websites and deferred to him for further comments. Grant stated that we have moved the websites from Google Analytics to Google Analytics 4. He will not turn on any of the new features until the website disclosures have been updated to tell people what information we collect, when they come to the website. He is also helping Janice with Facebook and the announcement of new training sessions.
- d. Education and Training: John AF6RJ sent his report by email.
- f. Election Committee: There was no report.
- g. Field Day: There was no report.
- h. Holiday Banquet: There was no report.
- i. License Testing: There was no report.

(continued on following page)

- j. Membership: Jan KM6NFC showed the membership report which he had previously sent out. Ed mentioned that, because there were some questions about security on the membership portal, he had tried it out by entering another member's name and that he only got the name and callsign back. Ed asked other board members to check it out too.
- k. Mesh Committee: Mike W6MEW reported that we are still waiting for a high level node in east county.
- l. Outreach: Dick Wade WM6G was not in attendance.
- m. PACIFICON: There was no report.
- n. Program: Ed KJ6KYT had nothing to report.
- o. Radio Lending Library: Cal stated that he had no report.
- p. Rocky Ridge Repeater (Tech.): Jim K6SOE reported that the 2-meter repeater is up and running. The multimode repeater is off the air but Trevor will reconfigure it as soon as time allows. Everything else is up and running. The weather station was ordered today.
- q. Scholarship: Janice Fujii, KG6VTD - No report was expected.

9. Future Meetings:

General Meeting 02/17/2023 on Zoom and In-person.

Board Meeting 03/06/2023 on Zoom only.

10. Unfinished Business:

- 10.1 Financial Audit for 2022/2023 Q1 Deadline: Ed stated that he will send an email to get availability of people.
- 10.2 Status report on revising Membership database for processing and tracking payments, status, etc.: Jan showed his report and renewed his appeal for a volunteer to do the actual mailing since he doesn't have time to do it. Jan asked Grant K6CBK for some help with configuring the payment portal and they agreed to take the discussion off-line.
- 10.3 Program Committee: We still don't have anybody to do that, so Ed will continue.
- 10.4 South Peak Contract & Move to North Peak: Jim is still in communication with the site manager
- 10.5 New venue for General membership meetings: It was agreed that the upstairs Chapel has everything we need for our general meetings. Larry KK6QPE, seconded by Mike W6MEW proposed a motion that we move the General meetings to the upstairs Chapel, except for the auction, the banquet and Pacificon. The motion was approved unanimously.

11. New Business:

- 11.1 Disaster Response and Recovery Workshop – 2/16: This was discussed under item 6 above.
- 11.2 Auction Chair: This was discussed under item 8a above.

13. Adjournment:

Mike W6MEW, seconded by Larry KK6QPE, proposed a motion to adjourn. All members voted in favor.
Meeting Adjourned at 8:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Brian Lotter KM6NGS Secretary, on February 28, 2023

These meeting minutes were signed digitally due to the digital meeting.

ANNUAL AUCTION CANCELED!

During its March 6, 2023 meeting , the Board of Directors voted to cancel the this year's annual auction.

The Board is exploring other ways to sell the donated equipment.

Ed Morales, KJ6KYT, President

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- Real-time Spectrum Scope with Automatic Scope Control • Multi-color waterfall display • State of the art 32-bit Digital Signal Processing System • 3KHz Roofing Filter for enhanced performance • 3.5 Inch Full Color TFT USB Capable • Internal Automatic Antenna Tuner • High Accuracy TCXO



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FTM-300DR | C4FM/FM 144/430MHz Dual Band

- 50W Output Power • Real Dual Band Operation • Full Color TFT Display • Band Scope • Built-in Bluetooth • WIRELESS Portable Digital Mode/Fixed Node with HIRI-200



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FTM-3100R | Rugged 65W 2M FM Transceiver

- Rugged & Compact • Crystal Clear Front Panel Audio • 220 Memory Channels • Weather Broadcast Reception • Severe Weather Alert Feature

FT-70DR C4FM/FM 144/430MHz Xcvt

- System Fusion Compatible • Large Front Speaker delivers 700 mW of Loud Audio Output • Automatic Mode Select detects C4FM or Fm Analog and Switches Accordingly • Huge 1,105 Channel Memory Capacity • External DC Jack for DC Supply and Battery Charging



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- High-Res Full-Color Touch Screen TFT LCD Display • Easy Hands-Free Operation w/Built-In Bluetooth® Unit • Built-In High Precision GPS Antenna • 1200/9600bps APRS Data Communications • Supports Simultaneous C4FM Digital • Micro SD Card Slot



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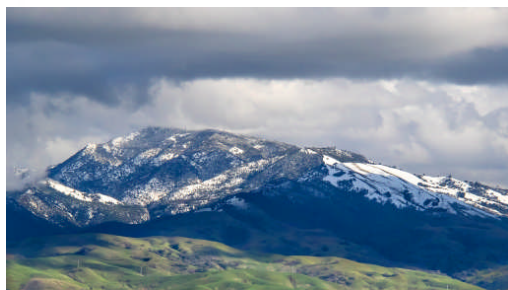
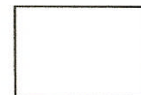
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The Carrier

Newsletter of the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 23222
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www.mdarc.org



Snow on Mount Diablo! Feb. 24, 2023
(Photo by Pete Harris, KE6ZIW)

<https://www.facebook.com/mdarc.org>

W6CX Nets

M-F 5:42 am Morning Muster 147.060+ 224.780- 441.325+

M-F 6:10am Commuter Net 147.060+ 224.780- 441.325+

Monday 8:00 pm SATERN Net 147.060+

Tuesday 7:30 pm Fat City 10 meter USB/CW Net 28.420 MHz

Tuesday 8:00pm Digital Practice Net 147.060+ 224.78- 441.325+

Wednesday 7:00 pm SKYWARN Net 147.060+

Thursday 7:30 pm MDARC Club Net 147.060+

Thursday 8:00 pm Digital Amateur Television Net 147.060+

Club Voice Repeaters

147.060 MHz + / PL 100Hz

224.780 MHz - / PL 77Hz 441.325 MHz + / PL 100Hz

EchoLink: W6CX-R /133896, IRLP: 3057

DMR Repeater 144.925 offset plus 2.5 MHz color code 1

D-STAR 145.000 offset plus 2.5 MHz

<https://w6cx.dstargateway.org/>

DATV Internet Stream: <https://batc.org.uk/live/nj6e>

YouTube Channel: Media MDARC

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Contra Costa County Emergency Communications Nets Every Thursday

6:30 pm HF Countywide 3.893 MHz LSB

6:45 pm West County 145.110-- (82.5 PL)

7:00 pm Central County 145.680 Simplex

7:00 pm East County 146.535 Simplex

7:00 pm South County 147.480 Simplex

7:20 pm Countywide 145.490-- (107.2 PL)

or 147.735-- (107.2 PL)

or 145.410-- (107.2 PL)

Concord Auxiliary Radio Emergency Service (CARES)

Wednesday 8:00pm 147.405 Simplex

Digital Amateur Television Repeater

Digital ATV Output: 1244.500

Digital ATV Inputs: 1292.500, 1273.0, 917.0, 430.0

Analog ATV Input: 1270.000 FM (PL 192.8)

March and April 2023 Club Calendar

Friday March 17, 2023	7:00pm MDARC General Meeting - Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette Also available on zoom.us via link sent from groups.io or watch on DATV repeater
Saturday April 1, 2023	8:00am MDARC Technical Committee Meeting - VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE
Monday April 3, 2023	7:00pm MDARC Board of Directors Meeting - VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE
Friday April 21, 2023	7:00pm MDARC General Meeting - Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette —The Annual Auction is CANCELED - see page 18—